

Madam Speaker, it is our hope and our desire that we as Americans preserve the heritage of this country, save this sacred land, and have corporations do the right thing, not only don't build here but maybe donate some of their corporate money to save this land.

And that's just the way it is.

WASHINGTON, DC, February 25, 2009.

MICHAEL T. DUKE,
President and Chief Executive Officer, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., 702 SW 8th Street, Bentonville, AR.

DEAR MR. DUKE: We write to you with profound disappointment in your company's decision to locate a new store near The Wilderness battlefield in Virginia and urge your immediate reconsideration.

While we may represent different political parties and states on opposing sides of the Civil War, we stand united in our support of respecting hallowed ground such as The Wilderness battlefield. The Wilderness, as well as other battlegrounds throughout the United States, represents the great struggles and sacrifices our soldiers made to defend freedoms they cherished deeply enough to risk their lives. Four thousand men on both sides died and twenty thousand were wounded during this battle in the spring of 1864. These lands and lands near them should always be spared from commercial development. Further, the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, formed by Congress to protect the historical significance of our nation's Civil War sites, has defined your proposed land for development as part of The Wilderness battlefield.

There are countless other locations your company could consider for a more responsibly sited development in this region. We feel the definition of corporate responsibility must always extend to respecting storied lands and respecting a community's natural landscape and surroundings when choosing a site for a store. Those values should not be eroded for the sake of commercial gain.

We urge you to listen to feedback you've received from groups close to The Wilderness battlefield and others who care deeply about keeping this nation's history and lands preserved and look elsewhere for development. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

TED POE,
*Member of Congress,
Texas.*

PETER WELCH,
*Member of Congress,
Vermont.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

RECOGNIZING ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING ON THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing on the auspicious occasion of the 125th anniversary of its founding. For well over a century, St. Luke's has provided hands-on, quality training to professionals entering the world of medicine.

On October 17, 1884, St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing opened its doors to its first class of individuals eager and dedicated to caring for the wellness of others. At the time when the school was founded, only a handful of similar institutions existed in the United States, placing St. Luke's at the cutting edge of health care training. As the country's oldest hospital-based school of nursing in continuous operation, St. Luke's continues a well-established tradition of excellence that began 125 years ago.

The impact that St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing has had on American life is pronounced. During America's greatest time of need, the school provided education and training for the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps, giving brave young women the skills they needed to provide medical assistance to American and Allied troops in World War II. When the United States suffered a national shortage of nurses in the late 1960s, again St. Luke's answered its Nation's call by hiring a recruitment director to actively work towards attracting qualified individuals to the nursing profession.

St. Luke's has consistently promoted the virtues of selflessness and caring for others. Year after year the School of Nursing provides training to nearly 100 nurses, a profession that is widely needed yet often underappreciated. The hard work, dedication, and caring of nurses trained by St. Luke's are a great asset to the high quality of care enjoyed by patients in America's hospitals.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my congratulations and heartfelt thanks to St. Luke's as well as its tremendous faculty, staff, students, and alumni that have carried on the school's proud legacy. May St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing's next 125 years be as benevolent and inspiring as the last.

□ 1445

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. YARMUTH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear

hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FLAKE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SCHIFF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MCHENRY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HUNTER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SOUDER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. NEUGEBAUER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CAO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CAO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)